

09 April 2020

Dear Rockland Property Owner,

Rockland Fire Department has partnered with Warden's Report to offer no cost, online, Open Burning Permits. Warden's Report is a Maine based company operated by Maine firefighters who felt it was unfair for Maine property owners to have to pay for an online Open Burning Permit that they could normally get for free at their local fire station. We agree with them.

You may obtain free online Open Burning Permits at www.wardensreport.com. Please carefully read the Terms & Conditions before agreeing to them (they are the same no matter what method the permit is obtained). The system will not issue a permit if the Fire Danger is too high on any given day nor will it issue permits before 9:00 AM on days with lower fire danger, all permits expire at 10:00 PM on the same day as the permit is issued, these permits are not valid for 2 days. You are welcome to use the Maine Forest Service system and pay \$7.00 per permit if you choose. Permits obtained on either system are automatically reported to our dispatch center and our department members via text message and email.

Please note neither the State Forest Service system nor Warden's Report is able to determine wind speed when issuing a permit. You are responsible for monitoring and ensuring the wind is less than 10MPH while you are burning. In the absence of a weather station with anemometer that will give you wind speed at your location we typically say if a flag will stand pretty much out straight it is too windy to burn.

Also, there is no longer a requirement for you to print your online permit. The new rule is; the permit must be printed and in hand <u>OR</u> readily accessible to you electronically at the burn site. Most people take a screen shot of the permit on their mobile device. If you are not able to print the permit and do not have an electronic device please contact the fire station and we will issue the permit for you to pick up.

As our City, County, State, and Country continues to deal with the COVID-19 Pandemic we respectfully request you do everything you can to obtain your permit online.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the fire station at 594-0318 and speak to the duty officer.

Please stay safe.

Best Regards,

Mikial Mazzeo Assistant Fire Chief